

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6452

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 7301

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PDIP, PINR, YO, MY

SUBJECT: REASSIGNMENT OF YUGOSLAVE AMBASSADOR VLATKO COSIC

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 7103

1. THE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO MALAYSIA, VLATKO COSIC, WILL DEPART HIS POSTING ON AUGUST 3, 1978, FOR RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA. COSIC ARRIVED IN MALAYSIA ON APRIL 3, 1974, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS ON APRIL 18, AND AT THE TIME OF DEPARTURE RANKS THIRD IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE. COSIC HAS INDICATED THAT HE IS RETURNING TO TAKE A SEAT IN YUGOSLAVIA'S FEDERAL PARLIAMENT AS A REPRESENTATIVE FROM BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA. DURING HIS TENURE IN KUALA LUMPUR, COSIC PROVED HIMSELF TO BE FRIENDLY, INFORMATIVE AND COOPERATIVE IN CONTACTS WITH AMBASSADOR AND EMBASSY OFFICERS. ALTHOUGH DISTINCTLY NATIONALISTIC, COSIC DISPLAYED A FAVORABLE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES, EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH OUR CURRENT RELATIONS AND WITH THE SUCCESS OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA AND PRESIDENT ITTO'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON. AT THE SAME TIME, HE HARBORED A DEEP
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DISTRUST OF THE INTENTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION.

2. COSIC IS 43 YEARS OLD AND WAS EDUCATED AS A FORESTRY ENGINEER. HE WAS ELECTED TO THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL IN APRIL, 1969. IN JUNE, 1969, HE WAS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC CHAMBER

OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, A POST HE HELD UNTIL HIS
APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO MALAYSIA IN MARCH,
1974. IN MARCH, 1970, HE HAD BEEN ELECTED A MEMBER
FO THE PRESIDUM OF THE REPUBLIC CONFERENCE OF THE
SOCIALIST ALLIANCE OF WORKING PEOPLE OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA.

3. COSIC'S WIFE, HILDA, IS A PEDIATRICIAN BY
PROFESSION, AND IS EXPECTED TO RESUME HER PRACTICE
UPON HER RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA. THEIR EIGHT YEAR
OLD SON HAS BEEN ENROLLED IN THE PREDOMINANTLY
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KUALA LUMPUR IN
ORDER, WE UNDERSTAND, TO INSURE HIS OBTAINING
A SOUND BASIS OIN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. WE
FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT COSIC IS INTENDING TO
RETURN TO YUGOSLAVIA VIA PEKING AND THE TRANS-
SIBERIAN RAILROAD.
MILLER

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